

Remarks

Claims 6, 12-16, 20, 24, 26, 28, 29, and 41 have been canceled. Claims 1, 7-10, 17, 19, 22, 27, 34, 38 and 40 have been amended. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the original claims and other claims in this application and other applications. Claims 1-5, 7-11, 17-19, 21-23, 25, 27 and 30-40 are pending in this application.

Claims 1-5, 11-19, 21-28, 30-34 and 36-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Krishnan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,442,529) in view of Williams et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,517,410). Claims 6-10, 20, 29, 35 and 41 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent format including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 6. As noted in the Office Action, claim 1 should now be allowable over the prior art of record. Claims 2-5 and 7-11 are dependent upon claim 1 and therefore allowable along with claim 1.

Claim 17 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 20. As noted in the Office Action, claim 17 should now be allowable over the prior art of record. Claims 18, 19 and 21 are dependent upon claim 17 and therefore allowable along with claim 17.

Claim 22 has been amended to include substantially the same limitations as claim 1 as amended. For the same reasons claim 1 as amended is allowable over the prior art of record as indicated by the Office Action, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 22 as amended is allowable over the prior art of record. Claims 23 and 25 are dependent upon claim 22 and therefore allowable along with claim 22.

Claim 27 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 29 and intervening claim 28. As noted in the Office Action, claim 27 should now be allowable over the prior art of record. Claims 30-37 are dependent upon claim 27 and therefore allowable along with claim 27.

Claim 38 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 41. As noted in the Office Action, claim 38 should now be allowable over the prior art of record. Claims 39 and 40 are dependent upon claim 38 and therefore allowable along with claim 38.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance and favorable action thereon is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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